

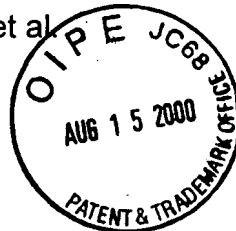
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: Tatsuji HIGUCHI, et al

Serial No.: 09/219,856~~7~~

Filed: December 23, 1998

For: ELECTRONIC IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS



Group Art Unit: 2712

Examiner: Not yet assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Director of Patents
& Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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August 15, 2000

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following filing of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form

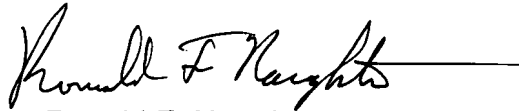
Serial No.: 09/219,857

PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN, HATTORI,
McLELAND & NAUGHTON

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald F. Naughton", followed by a horizontal line.

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Enclosures: PTO-1449 and 2 references